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Quality Mentorship for Developing Competent Nursing Students

Welcome to the **third edition** of the **QualMent Project eBulletin!**

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If you have any queries, please contact us at: qualmentproject@gmail.com

3rd Transnational meeting - Alicante (Spain) - 4-5 November 2019



The project partners eased each other into the latest developments made on the QualMent project, which is addressing the clinical mentor's lack in nursing education and develop the clinical mentor's competence with mentor education for national and international nursing students.

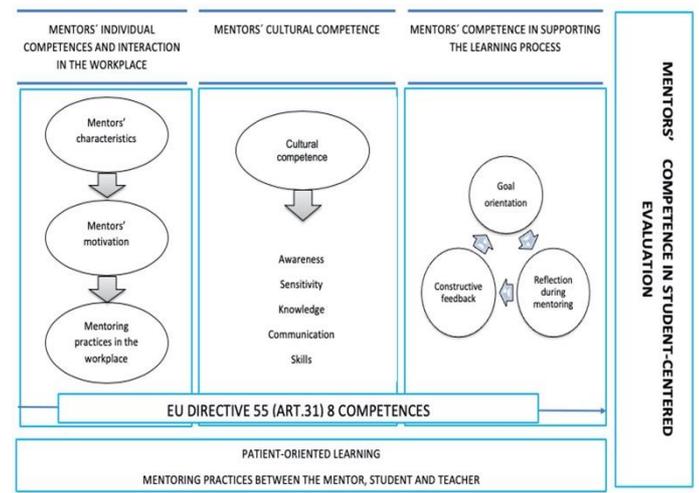
For the QualMent project, it is key that frontline mentors participate in the co-design of the mentorship course. The project's outcome takes into account that the course is to be taken by clinical mentors on top of their daily job.

The latest project's developments are relating to the course including three modules:

- Module I, which is an introduction to mentorship in nursing.

- Module II, which deepens into cultural and linguistic diversity in mentoring of nursing students.
- Module III, which reflects in the mentoring competency in assessment, and reflective discussion.

These three modules will be complemented with their respective training materials, allowing clinical mentors and nursing students to deepen further into those.



One of the compulsory training materials of Module I includes the [EFN's Competency Framework](#). This document relates to the Directive on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (2005/36/EC, amended in the Directive 2013/55/EU), which includes a set of 8 competences establishing the minimum educational requirements for nurses

responsible of general care (article 31, paragraph 7). These are legally binding for all EU Member States. The EFN Competency Framework, which breaks down each of these competencies into more detailed competency areas, describes what is expected to be achieved with the competences, the necessary education covered in the curricula, and a series of potential learning outcomes.

During this meeting, project partners discussed the upgraded version of the MCI and evaluation process among clinical mentors.



Another topic of discussion was the planned scientific publications and research activities to be carried out during 2020.

Moreover, an e-platform for distance learning was discussed and considered. This would be a key development for planning and implementing the mentor's course across all EU Member States.

Finally, the meeting finalised with a round table in which all partners discussed future strategies for disseminating the project. To ensure that the project is implemented across the whole of the EU, it should be rightly advertised in front of all nursing stakeholders at the EU level. Aiming at achieving that purpose, project partners have not worked only on the project's website and social media channels but have actively disseminated QualMent across meetings and conferences too, in their own countries and beyond.

Article on nursing students' competence in clinical practice

Project partners have published an article in the [International Journal of Nursing Studies](#) titled "Assessment of Nursing Students' Competence in Clinical Practice: a Systematic Review of Reviews" (2019). This article is [available online](#). This publication's point of departure is the assessment of nursing students' nursing competence, which has been a matter of concern worldwide. The complexity of assessing students' clinical competence has challenged educators for decades. Hence, it has

been recognized that there is inconsistency among assessment methods and tools between countries and institutions.



This article identified the current best evidence on the assessment of nursing students' competence in clinical practice, by conducting a systematic review of reviews, using different data sources as the electronic databases CINAHL, PubMed, Eric, Medic and the JBI Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports.

Spanish newspaper echoes the project's developments

The Spanish newspaper [Las provincias](#) published an article (in Spanish) in which they report about the QualMent project meeting in Alicante University, the partners attending, and the project's objectives. This is a great opportunity to raise awareness on this project across the country.

Upcoming meetings

4th Transnational project meeting: the project partners will meet again on 8-9 June 2020, in Kaunas, Lithuania. The hosts will be the partners from the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. The meeting will be about the next phase on the project, in which the project partners will discuss how to fine-tune the framework of the three educational modules, as well as agreeing on the best quality training materials for those. The goal is to turn all these into a practical course to enhance mentors' competences in Europe. Moreover, to ensure that the project's outcome can be fully applied across all the EU countries, the mandatory course materials will be translated to all EU languages.